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Latin, French or German without ridiculous errors" is an indefensible exaggeration. In the main, however, Mr. Bruncken's objections are well founded; and it is to be hoped that in the preparation of future volumes in this series greater care will be exercised, not only in reading the proof, but also in controlling the work of the translators.

*Munroe Smith.*

A MANUAL OF AMERICAN MINING LAW. By A. H. RICKETTS of the San Francisco Bar. San Francisco: SCIENTIFIC BOOK PUBLISHING COMPANY. 1912. pp. xiv, 486.

As stated in the preface by Charles Gregory Yale, son of the author of "Yale on Mining Claims and Water Rights" (1867), there has been no attempt in this handbook "toward elaboration or argument. The author gives what he considers the proper construction of the law and in each case cites the authorities. \* \* \* Under each general heading are numbered and titled paragraphs exceedingly brief but expressive, and containing reference to the footnote showing the authority and its source".

The work is not aimed to nor would it fulfil the requirements of the student of the general subject of mining law. There is no discussion whatever of principles and in some instances it is not entirely clear by what line of reasoning the author arrives at his conclusions. To be of general use throughout the mining states, the work may be criticised as specializing too much on California conditions, since the special laws of that state on various subjects are often quoted in full, without parallel references to the laws of other states on analogous topics. For example, the chapter on "Taxation", except for its discussion of the Federal Corporation Income Tax, only covers the California requirements.

The treatment of the important subjects of extralateral rights and tunnel rights is exceedingly meagre and would hardly seem sufficient to guide an inquiry into the important complications that very frequently arise under these topics. On the other hand, the subject of oil bearing lands is rather fully treated and seems to cover the field quite thoroughly.

In conclusion we would say that as a book of rules to be carried by the prospector or miner in the field, the work should be of great value, but as a guide to the general subject of mining law from a scientific standpoint, there is little, if any, value to it.

Pages 1 to 285 contain the text; pages 286 to 410 contain an assortment of forms commonly used by mining men; pages 411 to 486 contain, respectively, an index of forms, a general index and table of cases cited. At the end of the volume is a brief addendum of recent cases having a bearing on paragraphs of the work.

*H. Alexander Smith.*